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TRANSCRIPT  
OF  
ORIGINAL CHARTER,

GRANTED BY HIS LATE MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY KING GEORGE IV.

IN FAVOUR OF

The Glasgow Lunatic Asylum,

ERECTING THE SAME INTO

A BODY CORPORATE AND POLITIC,

UNDER THE NAME, STYLE, AND TITLE OF

“THE GLASGOW ROYAL ASYLUM  
FOR LUNATICS,”

9TH DECEMBER, 1824,

AND TRANSLATION THEREOF.

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GLASGOW:  
PRINTED BY JAMES HEDDERWICK & SON,  
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN.

1860.

## TRANSCRIPT.

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GEORGIUS QUARTUS, Dei gratia Britanniarum Rex, Fidei Defensor, Omnibus probis hominibus ad quos præsentes literæ nostræ pervenerint, salutem, Quandoquidem nos considerantes, Quod, Petitio humilis in nomine honorabilis Gulielmi Smith Domini præpositi Urbis Glasguensis pro seipso et ceteris Contributoribus Glasguensis Asyli, pro personis Lunaticis porrecta fuit, enarrans, Quod, Asylum pro personis Lunaticis in Urbe Glasguense, post diem primum mensis Decembris, anni Domini, millesimi octingentesimi et decimi quarti, institutum fuerat: Quod, dicta Institutio stabilita erat, imprimis, modo contributionum voluntariarum, tantummodo, et ab eo tempore, sustentum fuerat partim per eum modum, et partim per summas pro personis Lunaticis receptas, Quod, Institutio haud exiguum beneficium contulerat, speciatim inter personas insanas, in rebus egentibus, et petitor cæterique Directores hujus Institutionis, et numerus generalis Contributorum ad ejus sortem admoniti fuerunt, et illi verissime credunt, experientia iis habita, ut maxime conducere possit, perpetuitati et prosperitati Institutionis, et ejus conatus majis universe utilis redderet, quam in temporibus præteritis, si carta Regia pro incorporatione petitorum, et talium aliarum personarum, quales eo postea Contributores fierent, dictæ Institutioni concessa esset, in unum corpus Corporatum et politicum, cum perpetua successione, et potestate proprietatem hære-



## TRANSLATION.

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GEORGE THE FOURTH, by the Grace of God, King of the Britains, Defender of the Faith, To ALL GOOD MEN, To whom these our present letters shall come, GREETING: WHEREAS considering, That an humble Petition, in name of the Honourable William Smith, Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow, for himself and the other Contributors of the Glasgow Asylum for Lunatic Persons, was presented to us, narrating, That an Asylum had been instituted for Lunatics, in the City of Glasgow, from the first day of the month of December, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fourteen: That the said Institution had been founded, in the first instance, by voluntary contributions only, and thereafter, and from that time, had been supported partly by these means, and partly by sums received for the accommodation of Lunatics: That the Institution had conferred no small benefit, especially on insane persons in poor circumstances: And that the Petitioner, and the other Directors of the Institution, and the general body of Contributors to its stock, had been advised, and they verily believe, from the experience had by them, that it would conduce very much to the perpetuity and prosperity of the Institution, and that the undertaking would be rendered more generally useful than in times past, if a Royal Charter were granted to the said Institution, for the incorporation of the Petitioners, and such other persons who might afterwards become Contributors to it, into one body corporate and politic, with perpetual



tabilem habendi et acquirendi, præcepta et leges privatas ferendi pro recta administratione dictæ Institutionis, et cum talibus aliis potestatibus et privilegiis, qualia, aliis corporibus corporatis et politicis ejusdem generis plerumque conceduntur: Et, igitur, humillime supplicantes, ut nobis gratiose placueret Cartam Regiam pro his propositis concedere, per nomen stylum et titulum “Glasguensis Regii Asyli pro Lunaticis,” in talibus terminis, et sub talibus ordinationibus, qualia nobis in prudentia nostra regia idonea videruntur. Et Nos cupientes, omne quod par est adjumentum et incitamentum Institutioni tam laudabili et utili dare, Igitur, Constituimus ereximus, et incorporavimus, sicuti nos, ex regia nostra prerogativa et speciale gratia, pro nobis et regiis nostris successoribus, per presentes constituimus eregimus et incorporamus præfatum honorabilem Gulielmum Smith, Doctorem Jacobum Jeffray, Anatomiae Professore in Collegio Glasguense;—Doctorem Robertum Freer, Medicinæ Professore in dicto Collegio, et Doctorem Joannem Balmanno, Medicum in Glasgow, et dicti Asyli Medicum, et cunctos alios administratores dictæ Institutionis, et illos qui jamjam contribuerunt sorti dictæ Institutionis, vel qui postea eidem contribuent, in Corpus Politicum et Corporatum sub nomine stylo et titulo “GLASGUENSIS REGII ASYLI PRO LUNATICIS,” sub quo nomine, iis erit perpetua successio et perpetuitas, et privilegium commune sigillo utendi; Et illi legitime intitulati erunt, omnes tales terras tenementa et alia hæreditamenta qualia jam emerunt, erexerunt seu acquisiverunt, seu postea erigunt, erigent, seu acquirent, pro usibus et propositis hujus Institutionis, et pro melius firmando et securando sortem et opes ejusdem teneri et frui, legata et donationes recipere, Bona et Res tenere, pecuniam investire, in sorte publica vel sorte regni, vel in alia securitate personali

succession, and with the power of holding and acquiring heritable property, of making rules and private laws, for the due administration of the affairs of the said Institution, and with such other powers and privileges as are generally granted to other bodies politic and corporate of the same kind: And therefore humbly praying that we might be graciously pleased to grant a Royal Charter for these purposes, under the name, style, and title of “The Glasgow Royal Asylum for Lunatics,” in such terms, and under such regulations, as to us, in our Royal wisdom, might appear proper: AND WE, desiring to give all suitable assistance and encouragement to an Institution so praiseworthy and useful, have therefore *constituted, erected, and incorporated*, like as WE, through our Royal prerogative and special favour, for ourselves and our Royal successors, *do*, by these presents, *constitute, erect, and incorporate* the foresaid Honourable William Smith, Doctor James Jeffray, Professor of Anatomy in the College of Glasgow, Doctor Robert Freer, Professor of Medicine in said College, and Doctor John Balmano, Physician in Glasgow, and Physician of the said Asylum, and all other Administrators of the said Institution, and those who have already contributed to the stock of the said Institution, or who may afterwards contribute to the same, into a Body Corporate and Politic, under the name, style, and title of “THE GLASGOW ROYAL ASYLUM FOR LUNATICS,” under which name there shall be to them a perpetual succession and endurance, and privilege of using a common seal: AND they shall be lawfully entitled to hold and enjoy all such lands, tenements, and other heritages as they have already purchased, erected, or acquired, or shall afterwards purchase, erect, or acquire, for the uses and purposes of this Institution: And, for the better establishing and securing the stock and funds of the same, to receive legacies and donations, to possess goods and effects, to invest money in public stock,



seu reale, — *declarato* ut omnes Cartæ dispositiones et Securitates heretabiles aliave scripta proprietatem heretabilem afficientia, dictæ Institutioni concedenda, capta erunt eidem, in ejus nomine corporato, nempe “Glasguensi Regio Asylo pro Lunaticis,” nomine Directorum vel ullius munificum seu contributorum dictæ Societatis, haud specificato. Et quod, ullæ Cartæ, dispositiones, et Securitates heretabiles seu alia scripta, per dictum Institutionem concedenda, per præsidem et Secretarium subscripta erunt, vel per seipsos vel una cum talibus aliis personis (qui semper Directores pro tempore sunt) quales pro eo proposito constitutæ erunt, in terminis legum privatarum et præceptorum Institutionis, consensu generalis Conventus ejusdem Institutionis obtento, eo consensu in actis Sessionis ejusdem Conventus, relato, Et ut omnia scripta, ita subscripta æque valida et efficacia erunt, ac si subscripta fuerant, per totos Directores municipales et Contributores dictæ Institutionis, Et ulterius actiones movere et in jus trahi modo ullius alius Corporis Corporati et Politici leges privatas, ordinationes et præcepta pro administratione et gubernatione ejusdem Institutionis, ut iis idoneum videbitur, ferri et constituere proviso ut eadem vero intentioni et intellectui hujus donationis haud contraria sint, nec hujus regni legibus minime incongruentes, Et Nos cunctas leges privatas Ordinationes et præcepta dictæ Institutionis hactenus latas, ratificamus, confirmamus, et approbamus, in quantum iisdem in presentia obeditur, speciatim, leges privatas ordinationes et præcepta una voce latas conventu generali Contributorum pro eo proposito quarto die mensis Novembris, anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo, et vigesimo tertio generaliter citato, et quæ effectum habere ordinabantur,

or in national stock, or in any other security, personal or real: declaring, That all charters, dispositions, and heritable securities or other writings affecting heritable property, to be granted *to* the said Institution, shall be taken to it, in its corporate name, namely, “The Glasgow Royal Asylum for Lunatics,” without the specification individually of the names of the Directors, or any of the Donors or Contributors to the said Society: And, That any charters, dispositions, heritable securities, or other writings, to be granted *by* the said Institution, shall be subscribed by the President and Secretary, either by themselves, or along with such other persons (who are always Directors for the time) as shall be appointed for that purpose, in terms of the private laws and regulations of the Institution; the consent of a general meeting of the said Institution being obtained, and that consent being recorded in the minutes of the sederunt of that meeting; and that all writings so subscribed, shall be equally valid and effectual as if they had been subscribed by the whole Directors, Office-Bearers of, and Contributors to, the said Institution: And, farther, to pursue actions, and to be pursued in law, after the manner of any other body corporate and politic; to make and constitute private laws, rules, and regulations, for the administration and government of the said Institution, as to them shall appear proper; providing that the same shall not be contrary to the true intent and meaning of this grant, nor in the least inconsistent with the laws of this realm; *and we ratify, confirm, and approve* the whole private laws, rules, and regulations of the said Institution, hitherto made, in so far as the same are still in force, especially the private laws, rules, and regulations, unanimously enacted at a general meeting of the Contributors, called for that purpose, on the fourth day of the month of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, and which



et ita effectum habuerunt, ab initio hujus anni præsentis, milesimi octingentesimi et vigesimi quarti, uti præcepta stabilita Asyli in quantum eadem beneficio et commodo Institutionis utilia sint, et legibus regni non incongruentia. Sed hac ratificatione, non obstante, licitum erit Contributoribus dictæ Institutionis, apud allum conventum annuorum, postea constitutorum, vel Directoribus (quantum Directoribus competens est) dictas præsentis leges privatas ordinationes et regulationes, vel earum ullas, non solum alterare et innovare, sed etiam, easdem in toto rescindere, si iis ratio propria videbitur, et alias quæ conducere apparebunt beneficio et commodo Institutionis in earum vice, substituere: Et pro meliore administratione negotiorum dictæ Institutionis, Nos per præsentem Cartam, Constituimus et Ordinamus ut eadem, per viginti tres Directores administrata, et directa fuerit, et administratio ordinaria negotiorum ejusdem iis Commissa fuerit, constituendis uti sequitur, videlicet, Quinque ex officio, nempe domino præposito Glasguæ, Magistratui primario Pasleti, Professoribus Anatomix et Medicinæ, in Collegio Glasguense, et Medico Asyli pro tempore existentibus: Decem eligendis per Corpora publica Urbis, nempe, duobus per Concilium Oppidanum, duobus per domum Mercatorum, duobus per domum Artificum, duobus per Sessionem Generalem, et duobus per Medicorum et Chirugorum Facultatem, et octo per Conventum Generalem, modo postea mentionato, eligendis. Quinque Directores numerum sufficientem vulgo “a Quorum” constituent; Præses constitutus erit, et progressus promovetur eodem modo et more ut apud Conventus Generales. Directores convocati erunt intra quinque dies post annum Conventum Generalem, pro electione, per Sphæram, Municipum sequentium pro anno, videlicet,



were appointed to take effect, and thus have had effect, from the beginning of this present year, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, as the standing laws of the Asylum, in so far as the same may be useful for the benefit and advantage of the Institution, and not incompatible with the laws of this realm. But notwithstanding of this ratification, it shall be lawful to the Contributors of the said Institution, at any of the annual meetings after appointed, or to the Directors, (so far as competent to Directors,) not only to alter and innovate the foresaid present private laws, rules, and regulations, or any of them, but also to rescind the same in whole, if a proper reason shall appear to them, and to substitute in their place others, which may appear to contribute to the benefit and advantage of the Institution: And for the better administration of the affairs of the said Institution, WE, by the present Charter, *appoint* and *ordain* that the same shall be administered and directed by twenty-three Directors, and the ordinary administration of the affairs of the Institution shall be committed to them, to be appointed as follows; namely, five *ex-officio*; viz. the Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Chief Magistrate of Paisley, the Professors of Anatomy and Medicine in the Glasgow College, and the Physician of the Asylum, for the time being; ten to be elected by the public bodies of the city, namely, two by the Town Council, two by the Merchants' House, two by the Trades' House, two by the General Session, and two by the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons; and eight to be chosen by the General Meeting, in the manner after mentioned. Five Directors shall constitute a sufficient number, commonly called a Quorum. A Preses shall be appointed, and the business shall proceed in the same way and manner as at General Meetings. The Directors shall be called together within five days after the annual General Meeting, for the election, by ballot, of the following Office-

numeri selecti hepdomodarii vulgo “a weekly Committee,” visitorum et talium numerorum selectorum administrationis quales idonei putabuntur, Medici, Chirurgi, Superintendentis, et Pharmacopolæ, Matronæ, Capellani, Thesauri et Secretarii, Janitoris et talium aliorum municipum qualis requisiti fuerint. Directores etiam unoquoque spatio trimestri, primo die Martis mensium Aprilis, Julii, Octobris, et Januarii, properagendo officium ordinarium convenient. Conventus pro re nata Directorum ullo tempore conveniatur per Dominum Præpositum, per numerum selectum hepdomodarium, vel per ullos tres Directorum, pro quo proposito rogatus, Secretario dirigetur, quem obtemporare obligabitur, et debitam intimationem talium Conventuum, per notificationes impressas seu scriptas, dare die præcedente apud domum unius cujusque Directoris, vel apud locum ubi res ejus agitur, tempus locum et propositum istius conventus significantes. Directores potestatem habebunt, talia præcepta ferendi pro moderamine Municipum et servorum, et tales alterationes seu additiones eorumdem a tempore in tempus faciendi quali maxime conducere possint, promovere beneficium Institutionis, Sed nullæ tales alterationes seu additiones adscitæ erunt donec meditatione Directorum pro uno mense ad minimum subjectæ fuerint, et postea per duas tertias partes conventus pro expresso proposito, de iisdem decernendi convocati approbatæ fuerint. Conventus Generalis consistet ex Contributoribus ad extentum quinque librarum quinque solidorum, ad minimum vel annis Contributoribus, ad extentum unius libræ, unius solidi ad minimum. Dominus præpositus Glasguensis, præcedebit, et in ejus absentia, præses eligetur. Omnia negotia dissertationis per numerum majorem definientur, et in casu numeri equalis, Præses intitulabitur suffragio supernumerario præter



Bearers for the year; viz. of a select weekly number, commonly called a Weekly Committee, of visitors, and of such select committees of management as shall be deemed proper; for the election also of a Physician, Surgeon, Superintendent, and Apothecary, Matron, Chaplain, Treasurer and Secretary, Janitor, and such other Office-Bearers as shall be requisite. The Directors shall likewise meet once every three months, on the first Tuesday of the months of April, July, October, and January, for transacting the ordinary business of the Institution. A *pro re nata* meeting of the Directors may, at any time, be convened by the Lord Provost, by the Weekly Committee, or by any three of the Directors—the requisition for that purpose being made to the Secretary, which he shall be bound to obey, and to give due notice of such meeting, on the preceding day, to each of the Directors, by printed or written circulars, addressed and forwarded to him at his dwelling-house or place of business, specifying the time, place, and purpose of such meeting. The Directors shall have the power of enacting such rules, for the government of the Office-Bearers and servants, and of making such alterations on, or additions to the same, from time to time, as may chiefly conduce to promote the advantage of the Institution; but no such alterations or additions shall be adopted, until they shall have been subjected to the consideration of the Directors for one month at least, and shall afterwards have been approved of by two-third parts of the meeting, called for the express purpose of determining with regard to the same. The General Meetings shall consist of Contributors to the extent of five guineas at least, or of annual Contributors to the extent of one guinea at least. The Lord Provost of Glasgow shall preside, and in his absence a President shall be chosen. All subjects of debate or discussion shall be determined by the majority; and, in case of the numbers being equal, the Preses shall be

suffragium sui-ipsius, uti Conventus socii. Conventus Generalis, habebitur annuatim die Jovis, post primum diem Martis, mensis Januarii, ut in animo agitent relationem Directorum durante anno præcedente, et ut octo ex numero ipsorum, tanquam Directores pro anno corrente, per sphæram eligent. Conventus pro re nata, aliquo tempore per Dominum Præpositum, per tres Directorum, vel per sex qualificatorum Collatorum seu Contributorum convocetur, notitia temporis, loci, et propositi, istius Conventus semper debita per monitum publicum, in duobus vel pluribus nunciorum publicorum Glasguensium, uno heptomadi prævio ad minimum. Licitum erit omnibus Conventibus Generalibus, cuncta negotia, et administrationem Institutionis recognoscere dirigere et corrigere. Si in ullo tempore personæ qualificatæ secundum primum preceptum, sub duodecim, in numero reducentur, omnes Conventus Generales, isthinc cessibunt et in hoc casu numerus Directorum eligendus a communitate modo sequente succenturiabitur, duo per Concilium Oppidanum, duo per Mercatorum Domum, duo per Artificum Domum, duo per Sessionem Generalem, et duo per Medicorum, et Chirurgorum Facultatem, quorum nulli Socii erunt publici Corporis per quod eligantur. Et Nos pro nobis et nostris regiis successoribus, Declaramus ut hæ nostræ literæ patentes in et per omnia validæ et effectuales in lege erunt, secundem veram intensionem, et sensum earundem, atque accipientur interpretabuntur et intelligentur, sensu maxime favorabile atque benefico ad summam utilitatem dictæ Incorporationis, ulla mala recitatione, defectu, ambiguitate, seu imperfectione in his nostris, literis patentibus haud obstantibus. Et Nos pro nobis nostrisque Regiis successoribus paciscimur, concedimus et convenimus ad et cum dicta Corporatione seu corpore politico, eorumque successoribus nos nostrosque



entitled to a casting vote, besides his own vote as one of the meeting. A General Meeting shall be held annually, on the Thursday after the first Tuesday of the month of January, to consider the report of the Directors during the preceding year, and to choose, by ballot, eight of their number as Directors for the current year. A *pro re nata* meeting may be called at any time, by the Lord Provost, by three Directors, or by six qualified Donors or Contributors, notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting being given by public advertisement, in two or more of the Glasgow newspapers, for one week at least previously to the meeting. It shall be lawful to all General Meetings, to review, deliberate on, and regulate the whole affairs and management of the Institution. If at any time qualified persons, in conformity with the first rule, shall be reduced under twelve in number, all General Meetings shall thenceforth cease; and, in that event, an adequate number of Directors, chosen from the *community* in the following manner, to manage the affairs of the Institution, shall succeed: namely, two by the Town Council, two by the Merchants' House, two by the Trades' House, two by the General Session, and two by the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow; but none of the Directors so chosen shall be members of the public bodies by which they are respectively elected. AND WE, for ourselves and our royal successors, Declare that these, our Letters Patent, shall be, in every respect and in all things, valid and effectual in law, according to the true intention and meaning of the same, and shall be received, interpreted, and understood, in the sense most favourable and advantageous for promoting the utility of the said Incorporation, notwithstanding of any misquotation, defect, ambiguity, or imperfection, in these our Letters Patent. AND WE, for ourselves and our Royal successors, *promise, concede, and agree to and with* the said incorporation or body politic, and their successors, that

hæredes et successores a tempore in tempus, et omnibus temporibus futuris, ad dictæ Corporationis, et eorum successorum, humilem rogatum et petitionem, illis datorum esse et concessuros omnia talia ulteriora et alia privilegia, auctoritates, negotia et res ad has concessionem nostras efficaciores reddendas, secundem veram intentionem et intellectum, harum præsentium, ut nobis seu illis de jure concedere licitum erit, et quæ per peritos juris legumque dictæ, Corporationis pro tempore existentes juste proponuntur et excogitabuntur perque dominum Advocatum, et Solicitorem Generalem, in Scotia, nostrum nostrorumque hæredum, in nostrum vel eorum nomine, approbabuntur.

IN CUJUS REI TESTIMONIUM præsentibus sigillum nostrum, per Unionis tractatum, custodiendum et in Scotia vice et loco magni Sigilli ejusdem utendum ordinatum appendi mandavimus, APUD aulam nostram apud Carlton House, nono die mensis Decembris, anno Domini, millesime octingentesimo et vigesimo quarto, regnique nostri anno quinto.

Per signaturam manu, Supremi Domini nostri Regis  
supra scriptam.

Written to the Seal, and Registered the Eleventh  
day of February 1825.

(Signed) THOMAS MILLER, *Sub.*

Sealed at Edinburgh, the Seventeenth day of February,  
One thousand Eight hundred and Twenty-five years.

(Signed) JAMES S. ROBERTSON, *Dep.*

£80 *Scots.*



we, and our heirs and successors, from time to time, and at all future times, at the humble request and petition of the said Incorporation, and of their successors, shall grant to them all such farther and other privileges, authorities, matters, and things whatever, necessary towards rendering more effectual this our grant, according to the true intent and meaning of these presents, in so far as shall be lawful for us or our successors legally to grant, and which shall be justly proposed and advised by those skilled in the rights and laws of the said Incorporation for the time being, and shall be approved of by the Lord-Advocate and Solicitor-General in Scotland, of us or our heirs, in our or their name.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, WE have ordered our Seal, appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland, in the room and place of the Great Seal of the same, to be appended to these presents, at our Court at Carlton House, the ninth day of the month of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, and in the fifth year of our reign.

Superscribed by the sign manual of our Sovereign  
Lord the King.

Written to the Seal, and Registered the Eleventh  
day of February 1825.

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